

CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

5 1. A polymer comprising a cationic monomer and at least one hydrophobic monomer, wherein said polymer is triggerable.

10 2. A polymer comprising a cationic monomer, at least one hydrophobic monomer and at least one water-soluble or hydrophilic monomer, wherein said polymer is triggerable.

15 3. A polymer comprising a quaternary ammonium monomer and at least one hydrophobic monomer, wherein said polymer is triggerable.

 4. The polymer of Claim 3 further comprising at least one water-soluble or hydrophilic monomer.

20 5. A polymer comprising [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] trimethyl ammonium chloride and at least one hydrophobic monomer, wherein said polymer is triggerable.

25 6. The polymer of Claim 5 further comprising at least one water-soluble or hydrophilic monomer.

30 7. A polymer comprising [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] trimethyl ammonium chloride, n-butyl acrylate and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

8. A composition comprising a polymer comprising [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] trimethyl ammonium chloride, n-butyl acrylate and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

5 9. A binder composition for binding fibrous material into an integral web, said binder composition comprising the polymer of Claim 1.

10 10. A nonwoven fabric comprising fibrous material and a binder material, said binder material comprising the polymer of Claim 1.

15 11. A binder composition for binding fibrous material into an integral web, said binder composition comprising the polymer of Claim 2.

20 12. A nonwoven fabric comprising fibrous material and a binder material, said binder material comprising the polymer of Claim 2.

25 13. A binder composition for binding fibrous material into an integral web, said binder composition comprising the polymer of Claim 3.

30 14. A nonwoven fabric comprising fibrous material and a binder material, said binder material comprising the polymer of Claim 3.

15 15. A binder composition for binding fibrous material into an integral web, said binder composition comprising the polymer of Claim 4.

16. A nonwoven fabric comprising fibrous material and a binder material, said binder material comprising the polymer of Claim 4.

5 17. A fibrous substrate comprising:
 fibrous material; and
 a binder composition for binding said fibrous material into an integral web, said binder composition comprising a polymer comprising a cationic monomer and at least one hydrophobic
10 monomer.

 18. The fibrous substrate of Claim 17, wherein said polymer further comprises at least one water-soluble or hydrophilic monomer.

15 19. The fibrous substrate of Claim 17, wherein said cationic monomer comprises a quaternary ammonium monomer.

 20. The fibrous substrate of Claim 17, wherein said polymer further comprises at least one water-soluble or hydrophilic monomer.

 21. A water-dispersible article comprising the fibrous substrate of Claim 18.

25 22. A water-dispersible article comprising the fibrous substrate of Claim 19.

 23. A water-dispersible article comprising the fibrous substrate of Claim 20.

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24. A water-dispersible article comprising the fibrous substrate of Claim 23.

25. A wet wipe comprising:

a fibrous material;

a binder composition for binding said fibrous material into an integral web, said binder composition comprising a polymer comprising a cationic monomer and at least one hydrophobic monomer; and

said fibrous material being wetted by a wetting solution containing a sufficient amount of an insolubilizing agent such that said binder composition is insoluble in said wetting solution.

26. The wet wipe of Claim 25, wherein said copolymer further comprises at least one water-soluble or hydrophilic monomer.

27. The wet wipe of Claim 25, wherein said cationic monomer comprises a quaternary ammonium monomer.

28. The wet wipe of Claim 27, wherein said polymer further comprises at least one water-soluble or hydrophilic monomer.

29. The wet wipe of Claim 25, wherein said cationic monomer comprises [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] trimethyl ammonium chloride.

30. The wet wipe of Claim 29, wherein said polymer further comprises at least one water-soluble or hydrophilic monomer.

31. The wet wipe of Claim 29, wherein said polymer comprises [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] trimethyl ammonium chloride, n-butyl acrylate and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

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32. A method of making a wet wipe comprising:
forming a substrate of fibrous material;

applying to said substrate a binder composition comprising a copolymer comprising a cationic monomer and at least one hydrophobic monomer; and

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applying to said substrate a wetting solution containing a sufficient amount of an insolubilizing agent such that said binder composition is insoluble in said wetting solution.

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33. The method of Claim 32, wherein said copolymer further comprises at least one water-soluble or hydrophilic monomer.

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34. The method of Claim 32, wherein said cationic monomer is a quaternary ammonium monomer.

35. The method of Claim 32, wherein said polymer comprises [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] trimethyl ammonium chloride, n-butyl acrylate and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

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36. The method of Claim 32, wherein said insolubilizing agent is selected from NaCl, ZnCl₂ and mixtures thereof.

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37. A method comprising:
applying to a substrate of fibrous material;
a binder composition for said fibrous material comprising
the polymerization product of a cationic monomer and at least one
hydrophobic monomer.

38. The method of Claim 37, wherein said binder
further comprises the polymerization product of at least one
hydrophilic monomer.

39. The method of Claim 37, wherein said cationic
monomer is a quaternary ammonium monomer.

40. The method of Claim 37, wherein said polymer
comprises [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl] trimethyl ammonium
chloride, n-butyl acrylate and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

41. The method of Claim 40, wherein said polymer
further comprises at least one water-soluble or hydrophilic
monomer.